From: Drew Colthorp
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 8:16pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I do not think any settlement that does not guarantee good behavior on Microsoft's part in the future is reckless and irresponsible. The "Settle for the Children" campaign was a joke, and any decision that does not alter the structure of microsoft in some drastic way will be ineffective. Please do not let Microsoft get away with their anticompetitive practices, doing so would be a disaster.

From my standpoint, Microsoft should be broken up. Any other practice would Microsoft-code specific optimizations, and integrations that do not make sense. Nearly every virus and worm on the internet targets outlook or outlook express, due to the widespread use (because of monopolistic practices) of these products, and the inherent vulnerabilities they contain. Honestly, why would you want your email client to affect every aspect of your system through scripting, and why would you want a seemingly innocent email to destroy valuable data?

Problems like this will occur in the future if something is not done. The public has been forced into using inferior products for a long time, and anyone who says otherwise is a fool. Windows is unstable and insecure, and the general populous only upgrades to new versions in the hope that this new version of windows will be everything the last version was supposed to be. Why should anyone be forced to accept their operating system crashing on a daily basis, partially due to a nonsensible integration of an insecure web browser?

There is no reason. Something drastic must be done.

**Drew Colthorp**